

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 26th April 2010 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present

Rosie Weaver, Graeme Goodsir, Shirley Goodsir, Marilyn Hamilton, Melanie Lee. There were no members of the public present.

1. Apologies

David Bell.

2. Declaration of Interest

The Chair invited members to make declaration of personal and prejudicial interest in respect of items on the agenda of the meeting.

Melanie Lee raised an interest in respect of the allotments.

3. Minutes

3.1 RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 29th March 2010, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

4.1 **From February meeting** – The Clerk has set up a meeting with Donna Porter the Support Worker for Reparation at the Solihull Youth Offending Service to consider some of the projects we suggested ie tidy up of allotments, litter picking. This will take place on Tuesday 18th May at 10am at Meriden Green.

AGREED

Shirley Goodsir to also go along.

4.2 **Bus Shelter – information cases.** This issue has been passed to another person with Centro to deal with. Centro are not sure whether to agree to our request to fit the new timetable cases ourselves. It may be that if we fit them we have to maintain them. The Clerk has set up a site visit this Wednesday at 1.30pm meeting at Bulls Head car park with Centro and their contractors. The objective is to visit each bus shelter to assess the problems with access for fitting the cases.

4.3 **Trees on Meriden Hill (right hand side travelling up the hill which are SMBC responsibility) –** Once Glendale have completed the works Darren Parkin the SMBC Tree Officer will carry out a final site visit to check the works. He will continue to carry out further site visits to this section of the area to check that other trees which pose a Health and Safety risk to pedestrians/Highway users are also dealt with.

5. Public Participation

None.

6. Correspondence and Communication

6.1 Coventry City Council – City Centre Area Action Plan – proposed submission document.

CD containing the Draft Submission Document upon which representations relating to matters of soundness can be made. Deadline 21st May. Do we want to comment? Any volunteer?

AGREED

Shirley Goodsir will comment on behalf of the parish council.

6.2 Warwickshire Rural Community Council – Notification of Membership Renewal Changes.

RESOLVED

Level of membership agreed was “Rural Champions Network” costing £59 per annum.

6.3 **Residents concerns over speed of vehicles on Fillongley Road.** Resident's verbal request that the parish council pursue a flashing sign to be installed at the outer end of Fillongley Road.

AGREED

To refer to the Village Design Statement Group and also to the police.

7. Receive Reports

7.1 **Committee Member for Village Hall Management Committee** – no report.

7.2 **School Governors for Parish Council** – No report from Meriden School. Tessa Roxburgh has met with Chair of Governors at Herat of England School. She has put forward a residents name for a community governor at Heart of England School.

7.3 **Committee Member for War Memorial** – Mel will speak to Mr Ledbrook for a quote.

- 7.4 **Pool** – a meeting has been set up for Monday 10th May with BWB/SMBC/MPC to consider the minimum level of work bearing in mind the cost implications.
- 7.5 **Allotment Representative** – The padlock has been removed. A new one has been purchased by the clerk. Renewal letters sent out. Allotments 2 and 3 are vacant. There were two people on the waiting list. Both have been contacted but no longer want one. To advertise in Meriden Mag.
- 7.6 **Footpaths/Forum** – no report.
- 7.7 **Meriden Sands Working Group** – no report.
- 7.8 **Conservation Committee** – no report.
- 7.9 **Local Strategic Partnership** – The LSP has contacted Rosie Weaver in her capacity of Chair of Solihull Area Committee. They would like a parish or town councillor representative on the strategic board. Rosie will take this to SAC.
- 7.10 **Police Rural Assembly** – minutes for the meeting on 11th March were included in the emailed circulation list. Next meetings are 10th June 2010, 9th September 2010, 9th December 2010 all at 7.30pm in the Civic Suite. Clerk to attend on 10th June 2010.
- 7.11 **Solihull Area Committee** – Meeting last Thursday which the monitoring officer attended. He is attending a meeting of all parish councils in the area. He is attending our June meeting – any questions to be asked should be emailed to Rosie prior to that meeting. High Speed Train - SAC having a public meeting on 17th May at Fentham Hall for representatives of parish and town councils.
- 7.12 **Tree Warden** – no report.
- 7.13 **Meriden Parish Action Group/Village Design Statement Group** – The Parish Plan review meeting was last Friday at SMBC. This was a joint seminar held by Meriden Parish Council and MPAG. We now have enough information to update the action plan. The last VDS group meeting was cancelled as Iain was stuck in Jersey due to flight disruption from volcanic eruption in New Zealand.
- 7.14 **Community Surgery** – last surgery attended by Graeme.
- 7.15 **Paul Jayes Football Coaching – Maxstoke Lane, Saturday Morning** – the first session was successful with 12 children attending.
- 7.16 **Fusion** – 12 teenaged children attended the first session last Wednesday evening.
- 7.17 **Volunteer Playground Inspectors Training – Saturday 17th April** – Clerk attended along with contractor who carries out weekly inspections on play equipment.
- 7.18 **Displays – Village Green last two weekends** – we now have six extra volunteers, two of them for speedwatch. Age Concern came to the display on 24th April with their own display and they will come again on 8th May. Speedwatch sessions were also held outside Swallowfield in Hampton Lane. The number of vehicle details obtained exceeding the speed limit in the hour sessions were 43 and 41 respectively. The Chair thanked Paul Lee who has volunteered to be a Community Speed Watch co-ordinator for the weekends. The next training sessions is May 15th at Hampton in Arden Church Hall. Marilyn Hamilton and Graeme Goodsir will be attending.

8. Village Matters

8.1 Development – Maxstoke Lane and Hampton Lane Play Facility

Clerk, Chair and Tessa Roxburgh (MPAG) met with Berkswell & Balsall Common Sports & Community Association today at the Lant Community Building, Meeting House Lane, Balsall Common. They explained how they are constituted; some of the difficulties they have faced ie security; how their Tennis and Cricket Club are set up and that they raise money through fees. They are willing to help us again. The Cricket Club may also be interested in hiring out our new pitch.

RESOLVED

That a donation be sent to the B&BCS&CA for their invaluable time and advice which will benefit the whole of the community.

Management of the new play facility at Hampton Lane – at previous meetings we have resolved against some of the options leaving either SMBC management or a Village Trust. SMBC have agreed to walk with/hold our hand for two years whilst the village trust is set up.

RESOLVED

That the two final options are merged so that SMBC take on management of the new playing fields for an interim period of up to two years whilst a Village Trust is set up. (Proposed by Rosie Weaver, seconded by Shirley Goodsir and Melanie Lee.)

Next meeting we will need to make a decision on :

- a) whether to alter the priced/agreed Tennis Court surface, markings within the planned Meriden Recreation Facility with a MUGA surface/markings and associated financial implications.

- b) Removal of the Oak Tree. SMBC have commissioned an independent report on the condition of this tree which is currently with their Tree Officer to review. Julie has requested a copy of the report or the Tree Officers opinion of the report in order that an informed decision can be made.

8.2 Meriden Heath Painting – Temporary Rehousing.

Due to the library closure, the Meriden Heath painting, which was too large to be moved by SMBC with the other paintings, has kindly been stored by Packington Estates until the library reopens in July. Due to the size of painting and extremely short timescale, the Clerk had to arrange for a company to transport the painting at a cost of £80.

AGREED

The Clerk to write to Nick Barlow and his PA Kay to thank them for helping us at such very short notice.

8.3 Meriden Mag – next deadline is 1st May.

Ideas for mag are – AM/PM bus company, allotments for rent, speedwatch feedback, age concern.

8.4 Tennis Courts – Incident 14th April 2010.

Courts should be locked but the padlock had been broken off. 5 year old boy got injured when he entered the courts to retrieve his football. The padlock was replaced immediately. The fence separating the two courts is down. The parish council have a duty of care to make them as safe as is reasonably practical. The cost of repairing the fence would be uneconomical considering the pending development of the playing fields. The developer is willing to dismantle them providing they have no future public liability issues.

RESOLVED

That the tennis courts on the existing playing fields are dismantled at the cost of David Wilson Homes. The posts being cut so that they are flush with the ground.

RESOLVED

That BDW Trading Ltd have no future public liability.

ADDITIONAL

One of the wooden seats in the playing fields has been broken. Clerk has removed the wooden plank and removed coach bolts which were protruding from the metal struts. The approximate cost of replacing the wooden plank which sits on top of the struts will be £100 or less.

AGREED

The top of the bench should be replaced.

8.5 Annual risk assessment/inspection of the playing fields.

RESOLVED

That that the annual inspection of the playing fields is postponed until the tennis courts are dismantled so that they can be included in the inspection.

8.6 Cyclists Memorial Service – Sunday 16th May 2010

RESOLVED

Clerk to purchase a wreath for the service. Mel and Rosie to attend. Wreath to be sent to Mel.

9 Planning Matters

9.1 2010/369 – 184 Main Road, Meriden – First Floor extension to bedroom over existing ground floor kitchen.

RESOLVED

Leave to neighbour notification.

9.2 2010/531 – Thatched Cottage, The Green, Meriden – listed building consent for external painting of windows, re-tile/insulate roof slope to rear outshot, replace existing flat roof above rear door with eyebrow tiled feature, replace existing gutters and down pipes to rear outshot, replace 3 doors, install secondary glazing to 2 windows and replace 3.

RESOLVED

Leave to conservation committee.

9.3 2010/395 – Lodge Green Farm, Lodge Green Lane, Meriden – Erection of a rear conservatory.

Leave to neighbour notification.

10. Accounts

- a) Need to confirm Direct debit for monthly payment of £9.00 to E-on for the changing rooms.

RESOLVED

Direct Debit to continue for monthly payment of £9.00 to E-on for electricity supply to the changing rooms at Maxstoke Lane.

Accounts received

01) Solihull MBC – 1 st Instalment of Parish Precept	£16,368.00
02) Allotments – Tenancy Renewals 2010/2011	£ 225.00
03) Sale of History Books	£ 4.00

Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED

That the accounts are approved for payment.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday 12th May being the Annual Parish Council Meeting starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Chair : _____

Date : _____

DOCUMENTS FOR CIRCULATION

- a) Local Council Review – Spring 2010 issue.
- b) SMBC – Conservation Committee – meeting notes 23/3/10
- c) SMBC – Conservation Committee – meeting notes 12/4/10
- d) West Midlands Police – Rural Assembly – Minutes 10/12/2009
- e) Solihull Festivals Workshop – notes.
- f) Practice guide for the management of allotments – “A Place to Grow”.
- g) High Speed Rail – Plans – Key plan; Stonebridge Area; Balsall Common Area
- h) CPRE – Fieldwork April 2010
- i) WRCC – Country Matters Magazine